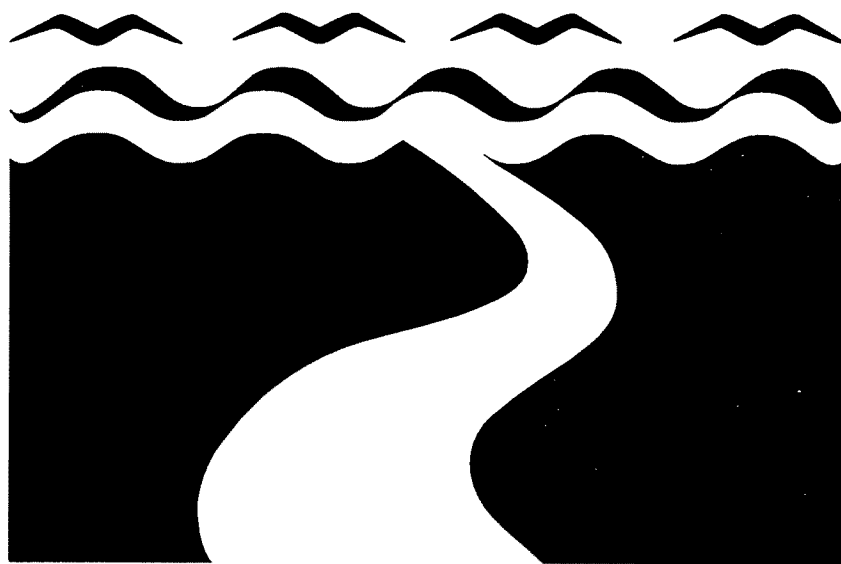


S A N F R A N C I S C O
B A Y T R A I L





How can
we preserve
and protect the
breathtaking
beauty of our
Bay shoreline?

How do we ensure
access to the Bay—a
natural resource that
makes our region unique?

How can we in the urbanized
Bay Area have more recreation
sites close to where we live and
work?

How do we multiply opportunities to
enjoy and learn about the natural,
recreational, historic and cultural facets
of the Bay?

One answer: The San Francisco Bay Trail.

The Bay Trail is a proposed 400-mile network of multi-use pathways circling San Francisco and San Pablo bays. Currently one-third finished, it one day will pass through all nine Bay Area counties and 42 of its shoreline cities. The Trail offers treasures for walkers, runners, cyclists, nature lovers and hikers, young and old of all income levels to discover and enjoy. Working together, we can complete the Bay Trail and leave an inspiring legacy for the entire Bay Area.

BENEFITS OF THE BAY TRAIL

At present, much of our shoreline is undeveloped and offers spectacular views of the Bay—one of our region's greatest natural resources. But the pressure to build at the water's edge could quickly change the landscape. Dedicating shoreline segments as Bay Trail can protect open space and preserve breathtaking vistas.

With its wetlands, marshes and wildlife refuges, the Bay is home to a diverse array of animals and birds. The shoreline is a living classroom of natural history for a range of observers—from university scientists to elementary school children. While the Trail will provide access to the shore, its development policies specifically protect sensitive environments by restricting its use to activities that are appropriate for the setting.

And, because trails must be safe and aesthetically pleasing to attract users, the Bay Trail creates an incentive for environmental cleanup and wetland restoration along its route.

In our densely populated urban area, it can be time-consuming to travel out of the cities to a rural or natural environment. The Bay Trail offers a respite from the urban scene, and is located practically in our backyards. Using the Trail, individuals, families, and employees can pursue health-promoting, stress-reducing, pleasurable activities close to where they live and work.

Because of the high cost and lack of open land for new park development, the Bay Trail is an attractive recreational alternative. Its network of paths will link 90 existing parks, marinas, beaches and golf courses. The Trail will wind through old and new neighborhoods, commercial districts, and industrial parks.

Plans for the Bay Trail call for pedestrian and bicycle access to all seven major Bay Area toll bridges. The Trail will expand the region's network of bikeways and provide an alternative to those who prefer to commute by bicycle.

Preserves open space and Bay views.

Protects sensitive environments.

Creates cleanup and restoration incentives.

Offers recreation sites close to home and work.

Links parks and neighborhoods.

Provides bicycling as a commute alternative.

Connects public transit to recreation areas.

Increases access to the Bay.

Original Members of the Bay Trail Advisory Committee represented:

ABAG's Regional Planning Committee
Alameda County Parks, Recreation & Historical Commission
Bay Planning Coalition
Browning-Ferris Industries
California Recreational Trail Committee
California Department of Transportation
California State Coastal Conservancy
Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge
East Bay Area Trails Council
East Bay Regional Park District
Golden Gate Audubon Society
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Greenbelt Alliance
Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency
Leslie (now Cargill) Salt Corporation
Loma Prieta Sierra Club
Marin Audubon Society
Marin County Open Space District

The Bay Trail also connects with local and regional transit systems—BART, bus lines, the Santa Clara County light rail and Caltrain—linking public transit with recreational destinations and reinforcing their recreational potential.

A majority of local residents live within five miles of the Bay, but many have limited access to it. Not since the Gold Rush has it been possible to reach the Bay at every point along its shore. In 1965, only four miles were accessible to the public. Enhancing access to the bayshore became a State priority in the Sixties. The Bay Trail, by providing new routes to the shoreline, multiplies opportunities—for residents and visitors—to enjoy, learn about and appreciate the Bay in all its facets.

BACKGROUND

In 1987, State Senator Bill Lockyer conceived and authored Senate Bill 100. The bill brought support for and planning funds to the Bay Trail effort. It was endorsed by the entire Bay Area legislative delegation and passed into law. The legislation directed the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the region's land use planning agency, to develop a plan and implementation program for the Bay Trail.

An Advisory Committee, made up of government agencies, environmental organizations, and recreational interests, was formed, and in their two years of work, formulated and approved the **Bay Trail Plan**. This **Plan** was adopted by ABAG's Regional Planning Committee and Executive Board in July 1989 and is the basis for continuing efforts to complete the Trail.

The **Bay Trail Plan** proposes a trail route and sets forth policies and recommendations for implementation of the trail system. The system's three primary components are:

- *a spine trail*, the main pathway, circling the Bay and creating a continuous recreational corridor;

- *spur trails*, providing access from the main trail to points of natural, historic and cultural interest along the shoreline; and

- *connector trails*, linking the main trail with recreation sites, residential areas and employment centers inland from the Bay, as well as providing restricted access to environmentally sensitive areas.

Bay Trail policies, as detailed in the **Plan**, call for

- trail alignment that is as close as feasible to the shoreline;
- trail design for a system accessible by the widest possible range of users;
- trail development that protects the natural or built environments through which it passes;
- transportation components linking the Trail with public transit and reflecting the need for bicycle and pedestrian access on the Bay Area's toll bridges and ferries; and
- implementation guidelines defining a structure for successful completion of the Bay Trail.

BUILDING THE TRAIL

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project, a nonprofit corporation, was established in August 1990 to facilitate Trail completion. Its Board of Directors includes many of the individuals who were active on the Bay Trail Advisory Committee.

Advisory Committee (continued):

Marin County Recreation & Parks
Commission
Metropolitan Transportation
Commission
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space
District
Napa County Land Trust
National Park Service,
Rivers and Trails Technical
Assistance Program
San Francisco Bay Conservation and
Development Commission
San Francisco Bay Sierra Club
San Francisco Recreation & Park
Commission
San Mateo County Parks &
Recreation Commission
Santa Clara County Parks &
Recreation Commission
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Santa Fe Southern Pacific
Corporation
Save San Francisco Bay Association
Sonoma County Trails Committee
Sonoma Land Trust
Whole Access

Each trail segment presents a unique situation—different parties involved, different concerns. Getting from concept to construction can take months or years. Every new mile of Bay Trail added to the system is a major accomplishment.

*—Jill Keimach
Project Manager*

The Bay Trail Project facilitates completion of the Trail by

- advocating for its development;
- encouraging widespread public participation;
- coordinating Trail actions and activities;
- providing technical assistance to local agencies;
- pursuing trail financing to ensure timely completion of the system;
- overseeing implementation to ensure that it is consistent with the policies in the adopted **Bay Trail Plan**; and
- providing for on-going maintenance and upkeep of the Trail.

While the Bay Trail is easy to support in concept, building it can be a slow and complex process. Cooperation is essential among the property owners; city, county, state and federal agencies; park and other special districts; and permitting agencies. These decisionmakers must be convinced that the project meets the needs of and is desired by the community. Trail development must be a high priority for local citizens and all the parties involved.

As each new segment is considered, the design must be made appropriate for the surroundings. Negotiations are necessary with property owners to obtain land or easement rights and secure their approval of alignment and design. Liability issues must be resolved and responsibility for maintenance accepted by a public agency. Funding for planning, design and construction must be secured. Only then can construction begin and additional miles of Bay Trail added to the system.

VOLUNTEER ACTION

To keep the process moving forward the Bay Trail Project relies on volunteers who put their expertise, interest, and enthusiasm to work to ensure that the Trail is finished.

Bay Trail efforts are coordinated on a sub-regional basis. The sub-regions are:

- 1) the North Bay—Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties;
- 2) Marin and San Francisco counties;
- 3) the Peninsula—San Mateo county;
- 4) the East Bay—Alameda and Contra Costa counties; and
- 5) the South Bay—Santa Clara county.

The Bay Trail Project hopes more individuals will volunteer for a variety of Trail activities. There are three major action areas in which volunteers can make a difference and help finish the Bay Trail:

- 1) volunteer/citizen input;
- 2) fundraising/promotion; and
- 3) trail development.

Volunteer/Citizen Input

Citizen advocates in each sub-region can:

- tour local Trail segments with other volunteers to recommend routes and construction alternatives;
- attend City Council and other regulatory agency meetings (such as the Bay Conservation and Development Commission) when shoreline development and trail items are scheduled and report back on discussion, proposals, and/or decisions made;
- plan and organize local activities to increase awareness of the Trail (such

Making the Bay Trail a reality will require ongoing, coordinated local and regional action. Responsibility for promoting and implementing the Trail must be shared by the hundreds of independent jurisdictions, agencies, foundations and organizations which currently operate in the realm of recreation and open space provision in the Bay Area. The framework for implementing the Bay Trail must, therefore, be one which encourages widespread, active participation by agencies, organizations and individuals throughout the San Francisco Bay region.

—The Bay Trail Plan

as shoreline cleanups; bicycle, hiking and nature tours; and participation in fairs and other expositions); and

- keep elected officials in their sub-regions apprised of progress on and plans for the Trail, as well as advocating that segments be added.

Fundraising/Promotion

Individuals who have an interest in raising funds for the Project and helping publicize its activities and successes can:

- assist in grantwriting and securing corporate sponsorships of the Trail;
- conduct annual giving campaigns;
- act as Trail spokespersons to the media or before community groups;
- submit articles for the Project's newsletter, the *Bay Trail Rider*, and
- develop Bay Trail guidebooks and other publication projects.

Trail Development

Volunteers can:

- work to develop and maintain a database on the Trail, including such information as type of ownership, regulatory agencies, general plans, type of soil, surface material, slope, and design constraints or environmental concerns as well as options for alleviating them;
- provide technical assistance to local agencies through the plan, design and construction phases of Trail development; and
- monitor and track the status of development of Bay Trail segments.

Individuals who have expertise in liability issues, land acquisition, trail design, accessibility guidelines for users with physical disabilities, dispute resolution and construction coordination can provide technical assistance and advice to agencies and businesses for new Trail segments.

A FEW TREASURES ALONG THE TRAIL

North Bay (Napa, Solano and Sonoma Counties)

Benicia State Recreation Area
California Maritime Academy, Vallejo
Kennedy Park, City of Napa
Marshes Wildlife Area, Napa County
San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Sonoma County

15 of 135 miles complete

Marin and San Francisco Counties

Angel Island State Park
Candlestick Point State Recreation Area, San Francisco
China Camp State Park, San Rafael
East Fort Baker, Marin County
Marina Green/Golden Gate Promenade, San Francisco
Pickleweed Park, San Rafael
Richardson Bay Wildlife Preserve, Tiburon
San Francisco Bay Model/Visitors' Center, Sausalito
San Francisco Maritime Historic Park

Marin, 20 of 42 miles;
San Francisco, 6 of 12 miles
complete

Peninsula (San Mateo County)

Coyote Point Park, Cities of San Mateo and Burlingame
Ravenswood Open Space Preserve, San Mateo County
Redwood Shores Mariner Park, Redwood City
Oyster Point Marina Park, South San Francisco
San Mateo County Fishing Pier, Foster City

7 of 51 miles complete

East Bay (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

Arrowhead Marsh, Oakland
Hayward Area Interpretive Center
Lake Merritt, Oakland
Marina and Shoreline Trail, San Leandro
Martinez Regional Shoreline Park
Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline, Richmond
Point Pinole Regional Shoreline Park, Richmond
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Fremont

Alameda, 41 of 113;
Contra Costa, 6 of 63 miles
complete

South Bay (Santa Clara County)

Alviso Environmental Education Center, San Jose
Los Gatos Creek Park, San Jose
Palo Alto Baylands Preserve
Shoreline at Mountain View

5 of 33 miles complete

In a region of more than 7,000 square miles and 6 million people, getting the word out about a project—no matter how worthwhile its purpose—is a challenge. A spark is needed to fire people's imagination and interest. For the San Francisco Bay Trail, that spark is the . . .

Bay Trail BayCycle Race and Expo.

The event features a series of U.S. Cycling Federation-sanctioned bicycle races, challenges for serious riders, fun rides, and a 5K foot race.

Outdoor enthusiasts, families, and children can enjoy the Expo at Lakeside Park. There will be opportunities to learn about the Bay Trail, the environment, alternative transportation, and bicycle safety, as well as games, contests, demonstrations, storytelling and fairyland activities.

It is hoped that the **Bay Trail BayCycle Race and Expo** will result in high visibility for the Bay Trail—and help to raise funds and enlist volunteers for continuing efforts to build the Trail.

Plan to be there!
Volunteer to help!

ACTION ON THE TRAIL

The past year has seen segments of the Trail completed and numerous activities conducted to promote Trail development. Highlights include the following:

- ✓ Completion and dedication of a 3.2-mile Trail segment at China Camp in San Rafael.
- ✓ Dedication at Coyote Hills, Fremont.
- ✓ Clean Up of Radio Beach, Oakland.
- ✓ Approval of the Bay Trail route in San Mateo County's and Milpitas' General Plans.
- ✓ Dedication of two staging areas, one in Martinez and the other at Port Costa.
- ✓ Negotiation for the Trail around Moffett Field Naval Air Station continued.
- ✓ Development of a Bay Trail link at Bayfront Park in Millbrae.
- ✓ Establishment of the first annual BayCycle Classic professional and amateur bicycle race, Lake Merritt, Oakland.
- ✓ Inauguration of Benicia/Martinez Bridge Shuttle for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- ✓ Expansion of Golden Gate Bridge access to a 24-hour basis.
- ✓ Dedication of a 16-mile Bay Trail segment at Ravenswood Open Space Preserve and Dumbarton Bridge.
- ✓ Continuation of public forums and site tours in a number of jurisdictions with both citizens and elected officials.
- ✓ Introduction of weekly walking tours along the Trail in San Francisco.

Working together, we can complete the Bay Trail. And, we can take pride that we helped make the Bay Trail a reality—for today's Bay Area residents and the generations to come.

BAY TRAIL PUBLICATIONS

The Bay Trail: Planning for a Recreational Ring Around San Francisco Bay

The final **Bay Trail Plan** includes the goals, policies and proposed alignment of the Bay Trail. The alignment is presented on 10 detailed maps.

July 1989, 65 pages

\$5 + \$2.50 postage and handling

Environmental Impact Reports: Bay Trail Plan

In the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) impacts of the Trail and mitigations are outlined and summarized. The Final EIR presents comments and responses to the Draft. Twenty-two maps illustrate the proposed Bay Trail alignment and its relationship to the environment.

January/June 1989, about 160 pages

\$10 + \$3 postage and handling

Financing and Implementing the Bay Trail: Tools and Strategies; Bay Trail Technical Report #1

Identifies financing options for the Bay Trail and similar projects. Financing methods, implementation vehicles, and potential funding combinations are described. Four successful regional trails are profiled as case studies.

February 1989, 48 pages

\$3 + \$1.50 postage and handling

County Maps

Detailed maps of the Bay Trail for each county.

Number of maps varies for each county

\$3 per county set

Treasures Around the Bay

Identifies parks, wildlife refuges, and other places of interest along the Trail. A series of charts for each county note locations as well as the facilities and amenities available to Trail users, such as visitor/education centers, nature study areas, picnicing, disabled access, paved bicycle trails, etc. It also provides telephone numbers for getting further information.

January 1992

\$3 + \$1 postage and handling

South Bay: Bay Trail Alternatives and Implementation Procedures

Overview of Bay Trail routes from Mountain View to Sunnyvale Baylands Park. Discusses environmental, security, liability and maintenance issues and offers recommendations for Trail implementation.

September 1991, 60 pages

\$7 + \$3 postage and handling

Payment in advance is required. Send a check or money order made payable to ABAG along with the titles of the materials desired to the San Francisco Bay Trail, c/o ABAG, P. O. Box 2050, Oakland, CA 94604-2050.

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project

(Please detach this page, fold, and return.)

- ☐ Yes, I'd like to volunteer to help complete the Bay Trail.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
() ()

Daytime Phone _____

Evening Phone _____

Company/Organization (if any) with which you are associated:

Sub-region in which you're interested (please prioritize: 1 = most interested, 5 = least):

___ North Bay ___ East Bay ___ South Bay ___ Marin/San Francisco ___ Peninsula

Availability: ☐ Weekends ☐ Evenings ☐ Daytime

ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Volunteer/Citizen Input

- ☐ Organizing local support groups
- ☐ Leading bicycle rides/tours
- ☐ Leading hikes/nature tours
- ☐ Monitoring conditions of completed segments of Trail
- ☐ Attending meetings of policymakers
- ☐ Monitoring and advocating legislation
- ☐ Working at fairs/expositions
- ☐ Working on environmental projects, wetland cleanups
- ☐ Writing letters to elected officials
- ☐ Typing, sorting and mailing information

Fundraising/Promotion

- ☐ Taking photographs
- ☐ Writing articles, designing brochures
- ☐ Speaking at public hearings, to the media and community groups
- ☐ Helping raise funds through
 - ___ grant writing
 - ___ individual campaigns
 - ___ product sales
 - ___ special events

Trail Development

- ☐ Surveying Trail segments
- ☐ Refining local routes and construction alternatives
- ☐ Providing technical assistance on planning, design or construction
- ☐ Helping develop a database inventory about the Trail

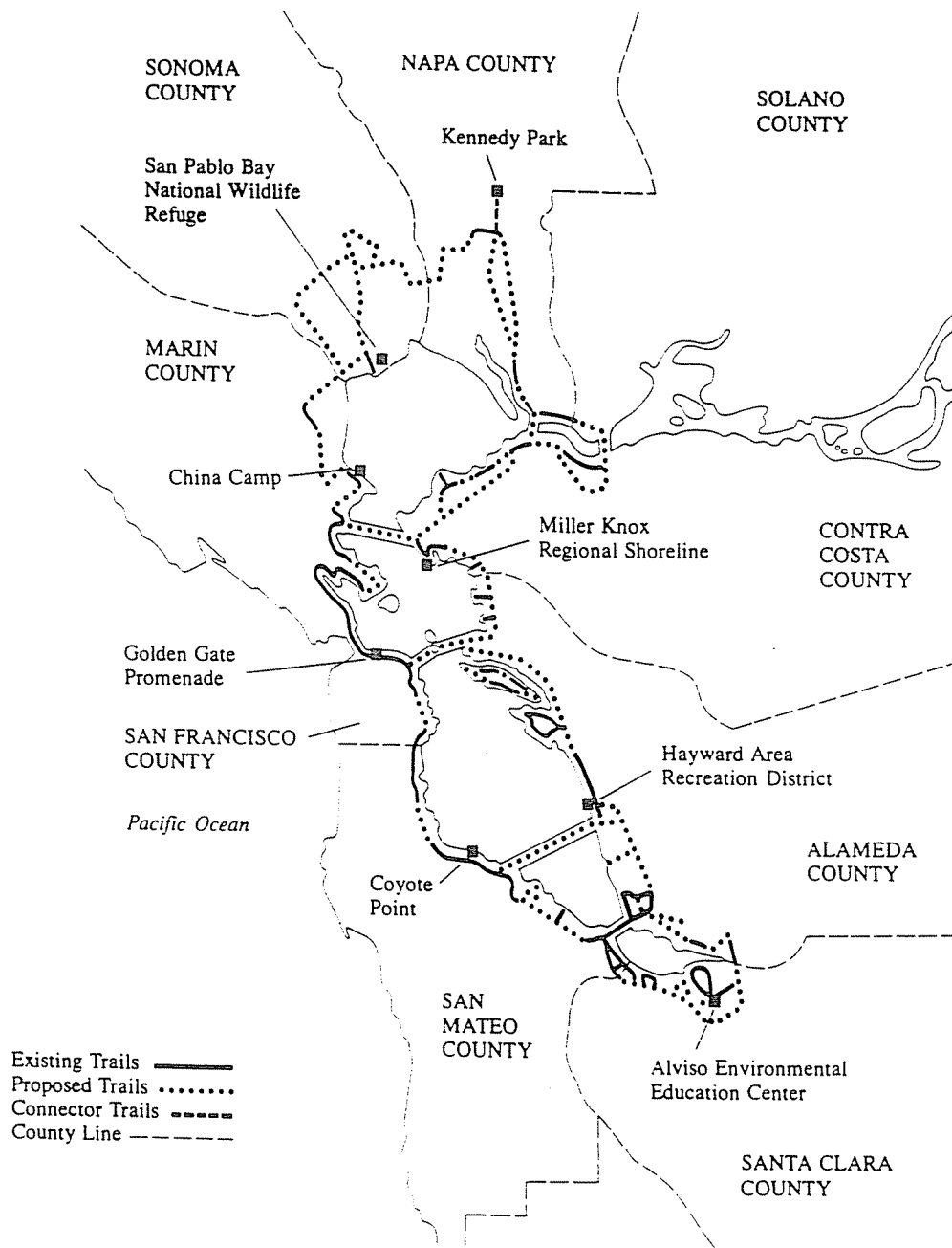
Bay Trail BayCycle '92

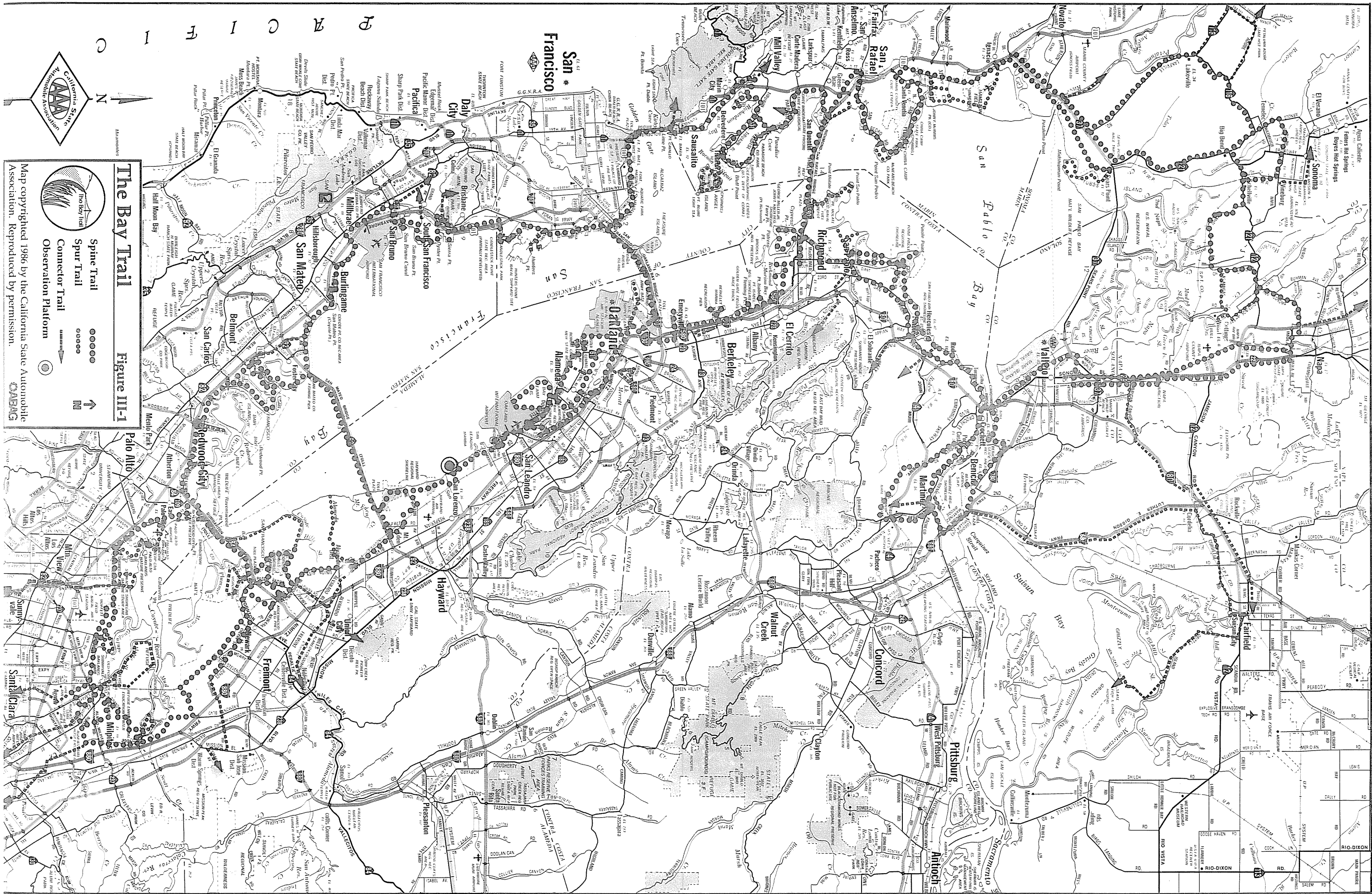
- ☐ Setting up the course
- ☐ Acting as road marshal
- ☐ Hosting out-of-town racers in my home
- ☐ Helping at "work parties" (mailing, information distribution, etc.)
- ☐ Joining the Focus Group that's planning and arranging the day

Place
stamp
here

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project
Jill Keimach, Project Manager
c/o Association of Bay Area Governments
P. O. Box 2050
Oakland, CA 94604-2050

The San Francisco Bay Trail





The Bay Trail

Figure III-1

- Spine Trail
- Spur Trail
- Connector Trail
- Observation Platform

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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